

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, कोलकाता संभाग  
KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, KOLAKATA REGION  
अर्ध वार्षिक परीक्षा / HALY YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2026-27

कक्षा/ CLASS :VIII

समय/ Time: 02:30 घंटे/ Hours

विषय/ SUBJECT :अंग्रेजी / ENGLISH

अधिकतम अंक/ Max. Marks: 60

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**General Instructions:**

The question paper is divided into three sections:

Section A : Reading 15 Marks

Section B : Writing & Grammar 20 Marks

Section C : Literature 25 Marks

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**SECTION A : READING – 15 MARKS**

**Q.1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1×8=8 Marks)**

Teamwork is the ability of people to work together towards a common goal. In school, students often work in groups for projects, sports, cultural programmes and other activities. Such experiences teach them that success is not always the result of one person's effort. When people combine their skills and ideas, they can often achieve much more. Good teamwork requires cooperation and communication. Every member should be willing to listen to others and respect different opinions. A student who is good at drawing may contribute illustrations to a project, while another student who is confident in speaking may present it to the class. In this way, different strengths become useful to the whole group. Teamwork also teaches responsibility. Each member has a task to complete, and the final result depends on everyone's contribution. If one person fails to do their part, the entire group may face difficulties. Therefore, team members learn to be dependable and to complete their work on time. Disagreements are natural when people work together. However, good teams solve disagreements through discussion rather than anger. They focus on the problem instead of blaming one another. This develops patience, leadership and problem-solving skills. Teamwork is useful beyond school. In families, communities, workplaces and sports teams, people must cooperate to reach common goals. Learning to work with others at an early age helps students become responsible and considerate citizens.

(i) What is teamwork mainly about?

(1)

a) Working efficiently only

b) Competing with others

c) Working together towards different goal

d) sharing responsibility

(ii) Why are different strengths useful in a group?

(1)

a) They create competition

b) They help the group complete different tasks

c) They reduce communication

d) They make one person responsible

(iii) What does teamwork teach when each member completes an assigned task?

(1)

a) Responsibility b) Fear c) Silence d) Dependence

- (iv) How should disagreements be handled in a good team? (1)  
 a) Through anger b) By blaming others c) Through discussion d) By ignoring the problem
- (v) State whether the following statement is True or False. (1)  
 Teamwork is useful only for school projects.
- (vi) Choose the correct option (1)  
 Assertion (A): Good communication is important for teamwork.  
 Reason (R): Team members need to listen to one another and respect different opinions.
- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.  
 b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
 c) A is true, but R is false.  
 d) A is false, but R is true.
- (vii) Mention any two skills that teamwork can develop. (1)
- (viii) Why can one person's failure affect the whole group? (1)

**Q.2. Read the conversation carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1×7=7 Marks)**

**Sultan:** Hello Raju! How are you?

**Raju:** I am so so. What about you?

**Sultan:** I am fine. But what is the problem? What are you thinking of?

**Raju:** I am thinking of the untold miseries of the flood affected people in our area.

**Sultan:** Oh, I see! The over-flowing water has really caused untold miseries. Villages after villages have been submerged.

**Raju:** You might have noticed that a vast tract of land looks like a sheet of water. People had to desert the villages. Thousands are already rendered homeless.

- i. What does the phrase “so so” intend to convey in the second line? (1)  
 a) the speaker is fine  
 b) the speaker is sad and emotionally distressed  
 c) the speaker doesn't want to talk  
 d) the speaker is bored.
- ii. Raju is sad about the miseries of the flood affected people. What does it show about him? (1)  
 a) He is easily frightened by natural disasters.  
 b) He is empathetic, compassionate, and socially aware.  
 c) He is uninterested in his own personal life.  
 d) He is complaining about the inefficiency of the government.
- iii. What steps can the government take for providing relief to the flood affected people? (1)  
 a) Providing high-speed internet connections to the area.  
 b) Developing new agricultural techniques for submerged lands.  
 c) Offering temporary shelter and basic necessities to the homeless.  
 d) Restricting movement into neighboring cities.
- iv. Why is it important to be sensitive towards the miseries of people? (2)
- v. Direction: In the question given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option. (1)  
 Assertion (A): Thousands of people in Raju and Sultan's area have been rendered homeless.

Reason (R): Continuous overflowing water has completely submerged village after village

- a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- b) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- c) (A) is true but (R) is false.
- d) (A) is false but (R) is true

vi. Which word in the dialogue means, 'difficult living condition'? (1)

### SECTION B : WRITING & GRAMMAR – 20 MARKS

**Q.3.** You are Ananya/Anay of Sunshine Academy. Your school is organising a 'Reading Week'. As the Literary Club Secretary, write a notice in 50–80 words informing students about the programme and inviting participation. Include all necessary details. (5)

OR

You recently participated in an inter-school science exhibition. Write an essay in about 250 words describing your experience, the project presented, and what you learnt. (5)

**Q.4.** You are Riya Sharma of Green Park, Kolkata. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner complaining about the accumulation of garbage in your locality and suggesting suitable measures. (5)

OR

Write a diary entry about your favourite sports person and how he/she has motivated and inspired you in your life. (5)

**Q.5. Grammar: Do as directed**

**(A) Change the following sentences into Indirect Speech:** (1)

(i) Father said, "We may visit Jaipur during the holidays."

**(B) Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:** (1×3=3)

(i) We \_\_\_\_ obey traffic rules for our own safety. (must/ might/ could)

(ii) \_\_\_\_ you please lend me your dictionary? (Would/ Must/ Shall)

(iii) \_\_\_\_ you please pass me the bowl? ( Could/will/should)

**(C) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets:** (1×2=2)

(i) Neither of the two boys \_\_\_\_ (was/were) absent yesterday.

(ii) The members of the Eco Club \_\_\_\_ (has/have) planted several saplings.

**(D) Identify the error and supply the correction. Use the given format:** (1×2=2)

(i) Each of the players have received a certificate.

(ii) The children was excited about the educational trip.

**(E) Rearrange the following words/phrases to make meaningful sentences:** (1×2=2)

(i) together / can / great / achieve / teams / things

(ii) wisely / future / resources / we / should / our / use / for / the

### SECTION C : LITERATURE – 25 MARKS

**Q.6. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow. (ANY ONE)** (4)

**(A)** The woman was old and ragged and grey

And bent with the chill of the Winter's day.

The street was wet with a recent snow

And the woman's feet were aged and slow.

(i) What does the phrase 'ragged and grey' refer to ? (1)

a. the woman's emotional state that day b. the woman's old and worn-out appearance

- c. the weather conditions of the particular day d. the colour of the street and the surroundings
- (ii) Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason: The woman was 'bent' with the chill of the Winter's day because she was \_\_\_\_\_. (2)
- (iii) Identify the **fact** and **opinion** from the following sentences: (1)
- a. The street was wet with recent snow. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The woman was too weak to cross the street on her own. \_\_\_\_\_

**(OR)**

**(B)** My next-door neighbour, Mrs. Jones,  
has got a garden full of stones:

A crazy path, a lily pond,  
a rockery and, just beyond  
A sundial with a strange device,  
which Mrs. Jones thinks rather nice.

- (i) What can be inferred about Mrs. Jones's taste in gardening from the description of her garden being 'full of stones'? (2)
- (ii) Identify whether the following statement is true or false. The garden serves as a means to reveal more about Mrs. Jones herself. (1)
- (iii) What does the sundial with a 'strange device' suggest about Mrs. Jones' personality? (1)
- a. She has a fascination with unusual items. b. She prefers traditional garden decorations.  
c. She is uninterested in her garden's appearance. d. She likes modern and expensive items

**Q.7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow. (ANY ONE) (4)**

**(A) King :** (To the four men) You have demonstrated remarkable intelligence and the ability to see beyond the obvious. Such minds are rare and highly valued in my court. I extend to you the honour of becoming my advisers. Your counsel shall guide my decisions, and your wisdom shall be a beacon for my kingdom. What do you say to my offer?

**Ram Datt:** (Stepping forward) Your Highness, it is an honour we had not dared to dream of.

- (i) Select the option that is true for both **Assertion (A)** and **Reason (R)**. (1)
- (A): The Merchant left the court feeling humbled and ashamed. (R): The King commanded that the four wise men join his court.

- A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).  
B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).  
C. (A) is true, but (R) is false. D. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

(ii) Complete the following sentence by choosing the correct option.

The line, 'See beyond the obvious' means that the men had the ability to \_\_\_\_\_. (1)

- a. challenge common beliefs with reasoning    b. interpret information in traditional ways  
c. notice details that others might overlook    d. predict what is going to happen in the future

(iii) How does the King's offer to the four men reflect his values as a ruler? (2)

**(OR)**

**(B)** Chief Brown studied the four words: Nom Utes Sweden Hurts. He shook his head and passed the notebook to Mrs. Brown again. "Can you figure it out?" "Nom is a shortening of nominative, a grammatical term," stated Mrs. Brown, who had taught English and other subjects in high school. "Utes is an American Indian tribe. Sweden is a country in northern Europe. Hurts is hurts." She

lifted her gaze to Encyclopedia and shook her head. "I can't figure it out," she confessed. "Davenport disappeared right after the hold-up," Encyclopedia reminded her.

(i) What does Chief Brown's reaction of shaking his head suggest about his understanding of the four words? (2)

(ii) Identify whether the given statement is true or false. (1)

Mrs. Brown explained the actual meanings of the individual words rather than decoding the hidden message behind them.

(iii) Complete the following sentence suitably (1)

The purpose of Encyclopedia's reminder in the last line of the extract was to \_\_\_\_\_. (refocus the discussion on the context of the crime/suggest that the coded message was meant for Davenport/imply that the message was likely a clue about the location of the stolen jewelry)

**Q.8. Answer the following questions in 30–40 words each: (ANY FOUR)** (3×4=12 )

(a) Why was the Vijayanagara Empire considered to be in its 'Golden Era' during Krishnadeva Raya's reign?

(b) Why do you think Gopi threatened the Zamindar to draw a beast?

(c) What lesson does the merchant learn from the King's judgment in the story of Wisdom paves the way?

(d) How did Major Sharma's actions demonstrate courage and responsibility during the battle?

(e) What role did careful observation and reasoning play in solving the mystery in "The Case of the Fifth Word"?

**Q.9. Answer ANY ONE of the following in 80–100 words:** (5 )

(a) The four wise men were valued not merely for their knowledge but for their ability to think differently. Discuss the qualities that made them suitable advisers to the King.

(b) Imagine you get a magic brush. Write a diary entry describing how you will use it .

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